

Investigations of individual members of the conspiracy were initiated by detectives from the Henrico and Chesterfield County Police Departments. Through their participation with the Metro-Richmond Identity Theft Task Force, an investigation covering multiple jurisdictions resulted in the execution of three federal search warrants, a federal indictment for bank fraud conspiracy, and multiple charges of identity theft.

Staton has no prior criminal history. Her prison term includes two years for aggravated identity theft. The statute, enacted in July 2004, mandates a consecutive, two-year prison term for defendants who use the identity of another person in relation to the commission of certain federal offenses, including bank fraud.

The task force was formed in the Fall of 2004 and is housed at the offices of the United States Postal Inspection Service, located in Henrico County. Member agencies include: the Postal Inspection Service; United States Secret Service; Federal Bureau of Investigation; U.S. Treasury Inspector General, Office of Investigations; Henrico County Police Department, and Richmond Police Department. In addition, assistance on this investigation was provided by the Chesterfield County Police Department. Prosecutions for the task force are handled by the United States Attorney's Office and the Office of the Attorney General for the Commonwealth of Virginia.

For more information on the task force, including assistance for victims of identity theft, visit: www.richmondIDtheft.com. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Laura Colombell Marshall and Special Assistant United States Attorney G. Michael Favale of the Attorney General's Office.

#